

considered high quality. I think we really ought to be collecting this data for all of the schools, not just those trying to achieve high quality, but we need to hold all schools accountable for the success of all students. This amendment goes in the opposite direction, and therefore ought to be defeated.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, I appreciate the tone and the tenor of this debate, and I'm completely convinced that all parties involved here want to accomplish the same thing, and that is to provide an opportunity for all young people in America to achieve to the extent of their ability. That's the purpose of this legislation that's before us, high quality charter schools, and it's the intent of Mr. MILLER and Mr. SCOTT and Mr. KLINE and everyone else that likely will vote for this bill. It's also my intent.

I strongly want to see people reach the highest level of their achievement. We need to be in the business in this Congress and aware of it on a daily basis of seeking to increase the average annual productivity of our people. We can do that one at a time, every three-hundred-and-six millionth of us. Every one of us that increases our productivity on a daily basis helps the whole.

Every class, every generation of people that improves their productivity is good for all of us. It takes the load off of the higher earners to have the income coming on the lower earners, for example. It brings that balance about. I want that. I think that's the intent of this bill.

When the gentleman from California says it's not what the law says, that I have somehow misunderstood this, I will tell you that I think it has been misrepresented by some analysts behind the scenes—not on this floor—and I will just read this into the record in short version. I will compress it and then I will give you the quote.

High-quality charter schools means a charter school that, A, shows strong academic results; B, that has no significant issues in the areas of student safety, financial management, statutory, regulatory compliance; C, has demonstrated success in significantly increasing student and academic achievement and attainment for all students served by charter schools. I want that. We want that.

But D says, has demonstrated success in increasing student academic achievement for subgroups of students described, and they are this: economically disadvantaged students. Now, that's fine. Most kids are going to be economically disadvantaged. Some students from racial and ethnic groups, that may not be the case. North Dakota or Montana, for example, might have to go a long way to find someone who meets that category.

Students with disabilities? Perhaps, but not always. Are we going to ask them to go out and recruit students

with disabilities in order to qualify as a high school, and a high-academic achieving school, high-quality charter school?

And the fourth one is students with limited proficiency. That doesn't exist in every region in America where there is a need for a charter school.

This sets up a requirement that all four categories be met. If we wanted reporting, as the chairman of the committee has suggested, I would say then let's ask for a report rather than write this all in as a requirement that can't be met because there only can be two results of this. Either we're going to follow the law, if it becomes law, in which case many, many schools will be disenfranchised, will not be able to become high-quality charter schools, or we're going to ignore the law. I don't like either of those results.

I want to follow in here with the intent of this legislation. That's why I've offered this amendment. I would urge its adoption.

I yield back the balance of my time. The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Iowa will be postponed.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CHAFETZ) having assumed the chair, Mr. WOMACK, Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2218) to amend the charter school program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, had come to no resolution thereon.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. After consultation among the Speaker and the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent, the Chair announces that, when the two Houses meet in joint meeting to hear an address by the President of the United States, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those immediately to his left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House. Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly enforced. Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor. The cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint meeting by placard will

not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats only by physical presence following the security sweep of the Chamber.

Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:35 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:35 p.m.

□ 1843

JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS PURSUANT TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 74 TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 6 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Mrs. Kerri Hanley, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The joint session will come to order.

The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR);

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS);

The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE);

The gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI);

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN);

The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON);

The gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA);

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN); and

The gentlewoman from New York (Ms. HOCHUL).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW);

The Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH);

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL);

The Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL);

The Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER);

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO);

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE); and

The Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN).

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Excellency Roble Olhaye, Ambassador from the Republic of Djibouti.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 7 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m., the Sergeant at Arms, the Honorable Wilson Livingood, announced the President of the United States.

The President of the United States, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you the President of the United States.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Members of Congress, and fellow Americans:

Tonight we meet at an urgent time for our country. We continue to face an economic crisis that has left millions of our neighbors jobless, and a political crisis that has made things worse.

This past week, reporters have been asking, What will this speech mean for the President? What will it mean for Congress? How will it affect their polls, and the next election?

But the millions of Americans who are watching right now don't care about politics. They have real-life concerns. Many have spent months looking for work. Others are doing their best just to scrape by—giving up nights out with the family to save on gas or make the mortgage, postponing retirement to send a kid to college.

These men and women grew up with faith in an America where hard work and responsibility paid off. They believed in a country where everyone gets a fair shake and does their fair share—where if you stepped up, did your job, and were loyal to your com-

pany, that loyalty would be rewarded with a decent salary and good benefits; maybe a raise once in a while. If you did the right thing, you could make it, anybody could make it in America.

But for decades now, Americans have watched that compact erode. They have seen the deck too often stacked against them. And they know that Washington has not always put their interests first.

The people of this country work hard to meet their responsibilities. The question tonight is whether we'll meet ours. The question is whether, in the face of an ongoing national crisis, we can stop the political circus and actually do something to help the economy; whether we can restore some of the fairness and security that has defined this Nation since our beginning.

Those of us here tonight can't solve all of our Nation's woes. Ultimately, our recovery will be driven not by Washington, but by our businesses and our workers. But we can help. We can make a difference. There are steps we can take right now to improve people's lives.

I am sending this Congress a plan that you should pass right away. It's called the American Jobs Act. There should be nothing controversial about this piece of legislation. Everything in here is the kind of proposal that's been supported by both Democrats and Republicans—including many who sit here tonight. And everything in this bill will be paid for. Everything.

The purpose of the American Jobs Act is simple: to put more people back to work and more money in the pockets of those who are working. It will create more jobs for construction workers, more jobs for teachers, more jobs for veterans, and more jobs for the long-term unemployed. It will provide a tax break for companies who hire new workers, and it will cut payroll taxes in half for every working American and every small business. It will provide a jolt to an economy that has stalled, and give companies confidence that if they invest and hire, there will be customers for their products and services. You should pass this jobs plan right away.

Everyone here knows that small businesses are where most new jobs begin. And you know that while corporate profits have come roaring back, smaller companies haven't. So for everyone who speaks so passionately about making life easier for "job creators," this plan's for you.

Pass this jobs bill, and starting tomorrow, small businesses will get a tax cut if they hire new workers or if they raise workers' wages. Pass this jobs bill, and all small business owners will also see their payroll taxes cut in half next year. If you have 50 employees making an average salary, that's an \$80,000 tax cut. And all businesses will be able to continue writing off the investments they make in 2012.

It's not just Democrats who have supported this kind of proposal. Fifty

House Republicans have proposed the same payroll tax cut that's in this plan. You should pass it right away.

Pass this jobs bill, and we can put people to work rebuilding America. Everyone here knows that we have badly decaying roads and bridges all over this country. Our highways are clogged with traffic. Our skies are the most congested in the world. It's an outrage.

Building a world-class transportation system is part of what made us an economic superpower. And now we're going to sit back and watch China build newer airports and faster railroads? At a time when millions of unemployed construction workers could build them right here in America?

There are private construction companies all across America just waiting to get to work. There's a bridge that needs repair between Ohio and Kentucky that's on one of the busiest trucking routes in North America. There's a public transit project in Houston that will help clear up one of the worst areas of traffic in the country. And there are schools throughout this country that desperately need renovating. How can we expect our kids to do their best in places that are literally falling apart? This is America. Every child deserves a great school—and we can give it to them, if we act now.

The American Jobs Act will repair and modernize at least 35,000 schools. It will put people to work right now fixing roofs and windows; installing science labs and high-speed Internet in classrooms all across this country. It will rehabilitate homes and businesses in communities hit hardest by foreclosures. It will jump-start thousands of transportation projects all across the country. And to make sure the money is properly spent, we're building on reforms we've already put in place. No more earmarks. No more boondoggles. No more bridges to nowhere. We're cutting the red tape that prevents some of these projects from getting started as quickly as possible. And we'll set up an independent fund to attract private dollars and issue loans based on two criteria: how badly a construction project is needed and how much good it will do for the economy.

This idea came from a bill written by a Texas Republican and a Massachusetts Democrat. The idea for a big boost in construction is supported by America's largest business organization and America's largest labor organization. It's the kind of proposal that's been supported in the past by Democrats and Republicans alike. You should pass it right away.

Pass this jobs bill, and thousands of teachers in every State will go back to work. These are the men and women charged with preparing our children for a world where the competition has never been tougher. But while they're adding teachers in places like South Korea, we're laying them off in droves. It's unfair to our kids. It undermines their future and ours. And it has to

stop. Pass this bill, and put our teachers back in the classroom where they belong.

Pass this jobs bill, and companies will get extra tax credits if they hire America's veterans. We ask these men and women to leave their careers, leave their families, and risk their lives to fight for our country. The last thing they should have to do is fight for a job when they come home.

Pass this bill, and hundreds of thousands of disadvantaged young people will have the hope and the dignity of a summer job next year; and their parents, low-income Americans who desperately want to work, will have more ladders out of poverty.

Pass this jobs bill, and companies will get a \$4,000 tax credit if they hire anyone who has spent more than 6 months looking for a job.

We have to do more to help the long-term unemployed in their search for work. This jobs plan builds on a program in Georgia that several Republican leaders have highlighted, where people who collect unemployment insurance participate in temporary work as a way of building their skills while they look for a permanent job. The plan also extends unemployment insurance for another year. If the millions of unemployed Americans stopped getting this insurance and stopped using that money for basic necessities, it would be a devastating blow to this economy. Democrats and Republicans in this Chamber have supported unemployment insurance plenty of times in the past. At this time of prolonged hardship, you should pass it again—right away.

Pass this jobs bill, and the typical working family will get a \$1,500 tax cut next year; \$1,500 that would have been taken out of your paycheck will go right into your pocket. This expands on the tax cut that Democrats and Republicans already passed for this year. If we allow that tax cut to expire—if we refuse to act—middle class families will get hit with a tax increase at the worst possible time. We can't let that happen. I know that some of you have sworn oaths to never raise any taxes on anyone for as long as you live. Now is not the time to carve out an exception and raise middle class taxes, which is why you should pass this bill right away.

This is the American Jobs Act. It will lead to new jobs for construction workers, for teachers, for veterans, for first responders, young people, and the long-term unemployed. It will provide tax credits to companies that hire new workers, tax relief for small business owners, and tax cuts for the middle class. And here is the other thing I want the American people to know: The American Jobs Act will not add to the deficit. It will be paid for, and here's how:

The agreement we passed in July will cut government spending by about \$1 trillion over the next 10 years. It also charges this Congress to come up with

an additional \$1.5 trillion in savings by Christmas. Tonight, I am asking you to increase that amount so that it covers the full cost of the American Jobs Act; and a week from Monday, I'll be releasing a more ambitious deficit plan, a plan that will not only cover the cost of this jobs bill but stabilize our debt in the long run.

This approach is basically the one I've been advocating for months. In addition to the trillion dollars of spending cuts I've already signed into law, it is a balanced plan that would reduce the deficit by making additional spending cuts, by making modest adjustments to health care programs like Medicare and Medicaid, and by reforming our Tax Code in a way that asks the wealthiest Americans and biggest corporations to pay their fair share. What's more, the spending cuts wouldn't happen so abruptly that they'd be a drag on our economy or prevent us from helping small businesses and middle class families get back on their feet right away.

Now, I realize there are some in our party who don't think we should make any changes at all to Medicare and Medicaid, and I understand their concerns, but here is the truth: millions of Americans rely on Medicare in their retirement, and millions more will do so in the future. They pay for this benefit during their working years. They earn it. But with an aging population and rising health care costs, we are spending too fast to sustain the program; and if we don't gradually reform the system while protecting current beneficiaries, it won't be there when future retirees need it. We have to reform Medicare to strengthen it.

I'm also well aware that there are many Republicans who don't believe we should raise taxes on those who are most fortunate and who can best afford it, but here is what every American knows: While most people in this country struggle to make ends meet, a few of the most affluent citizens and most profitable corporations enjoy tax breaks and loopholes that nobody else gets. Right now, Warren Buffett pays a lower tax rate than his secretary—an outrage he has asked us to fix. We need a Tax Code where everyone gets a fair shake and where everybody pays their fair share—and by the way, I believe the vast majority of wealthy Americans and CEOs are willing to do just that if it helps the economy grow and gets our fiscal house in order.

I'll also offer ideas to reform a corporate Tax Code that stands as a monument to special interest influence in Washington. By eliminating pages of loopholes and deductions, we can lower one of the highest corporate tax rates in the world. Our Tax Code should not give an advantage to companies that can afford the best-connected lobbyists. It should give an advantage to companies that invest and create jobs right here in the United States of America.

So we can reduce this deficit, pay down our debt, and pay for this jobs

plan in the process, but in order to do this, we have to decide what our priorities are. We have to ask ourselves, What's the best way to grow the economy and create jobs?

Should we keep tax loopholes for oil companies or should we use that money to give small business owners a tax credit when they hire new workers? Because we can't afford to do both.

Should we keep tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires or should we put teachers back to work so our kids can graduate, ready for college and good jobs? Right now, we can't afford to do both.

This isn't political grandstanding. This isn't class warfare. This is simple math. These are real choices. These are real choices that we've got to make, and I'm pretty sure I know what most Americans would choose—it's not even close—and it's time for us to do what's right for our future.

The American Jobs Act answers the urgent need to create jobs right away, but we can't stop there. As I've argued since I ran for this office, we have to look beyond the immediate crisis and start building an economy that lasts into the future—an economy that creates good, middle class jobs that pay well and offer security. We now live in a world where technology has made it possible for companies to take their business anywhere. If we want them to start here and stay here and hire here, we have to be able to out-build and out-educate and out-innovate every other country on Earth.

This task of making America more competitive for the long haul, that's a job for all of us—for government and for private companies, for States and for local communities, and for every American citizen. All of us will have to up our game. All of us will have to change the way we do business.

My administration can and will take some steps to improve our competitiveness on our own. For example, if you're a small business owner who has a contract with the Federal Government, we're going to make sure you get paid a lot faster than you do right now. We're also planning to cut away the red tape that prevents too many rapidly growing start-up companies from raising capital and going public. And to help responsible homeowners, we're going to work with Federal housing agencies to help more people refinance their mortgages at interest rates that are now near 4 percent. I know you guys must be for this because that's a step that can put more than \$2,000 a year in a family's pocket and give a lift to an economy still burdened by the drop in housing prices.

So some things we can do on our own. Other steps will require congressional action. Today, you passed reform that will speed up the outdated patent process so that entrepreneurs can turn a new idea into a new business as quickly as possible. That's the kind of action we need. Now it's time to clear the way for a series of trade agreements that

would make it easier for American companies to sell their products in Panama, Colombia and South Korea while also helping the workers whose jobs have been affected by global competition.

If Americans can buy Kias and Hyundais, I want to see folks in South Korea driving Fords and Chevys and Chryslers. I want to see more products sold around the world stamped with three proud words: "Made in America." That's what we need to get done.

And on all of our efforts to strengthen competitiveness, we need to look for ways to work side by side with America's businesses. That's why I've brought together a jobs council of leaders from different industries who are developing a wide range of new ideas to help companies grow and create jobs.

Already, we've mobilized business leaders to train 10,000 American engineers a year by providing company internships and training. Other businesses are covering tuition for workers who learn new skills at community colleges, and we're going to make sure the next generation of manufacturing takes root, not in China or in Europe, but right here in the United States of America. If we provide the right incentives, the right support and if we make sure that our trading partners play by the rules, we can be the ones to build everything from fuel-efficient cars to advanced biofuels to semiconductors that we sell all around the world. That's how America can be number one again, and that's how America will be number one again.

Now, I realize that some of you have a different theory on how to grow the economy. Some of you sincerely believe that the only solution to our economic challenges is to simply cut most government spending and eliminate most government regulations.

I agree that we can't afford wasteful spending, and I'll work with you, with Congress, to root it out; and I agree that there are some rules and regulations that do put an unnecessary burden on businesses at a time when they can least afford it. That's why I ordered a review of all government regulations. So far, we've identified over 500 reforms which will save billions of dollars over the next few years. We should have no more regulation than the health, safety and security of the American people require. Every rule should meet that commonsense test.

But what we can't do—what I will not do—is let this economic crisis be used as an excuse to wipe out the basic protections that Americans have counted on for decades. I reject the idea that we need to ask people to choose between their jobs and their safety. I reject the argument that says, for the economy to grow, we have to roll back protections that ban hidden fees by credit card companies or rules that keep our kids from being exposed to mercury or laws that prevent the health insurance industry from short-changing patients. I reject the idea

that we have to strip away collective bargaining rights to compete in a global economy.

We shouldn't be in a race to the bottom where we try to offer the cheapest labor and the worst pollution standards. America should be in a race to the top, and I believe we can win that race.

In fact, this larger notion that the only thing we can do to restore prosperity is just dismantle government, refund everyone's money, let everyone write their own rules, and tell everyone they're on their own—that's not who we are. That's not the story of America.

Yes, we are rugged individuals. Yes, we are strong and self-reliant. And it has been the drive and initiative of our workers and entrepreneurs that has made this economy the engine and envy of the world. But there has always been another thread running throughout our history—a belief that we are all connected and that there are some things we can only do together as a Nation.

We all remember Abraham Lincoln as the leader who saved our Union—the founder of the Republican Party—but in the middle of a Civil War, he was also a leader who looked to the future—a Republican President who mobilized government to build the Transcontinental Railroad, launch the National Academy of Sciences, set up the first land grant colleges; and leaders of both parties have followed the example he set.

Ask yourselves: Where would we be right now if the people who sat here before us decided not to build our highways, not to build our bridges, our dams, our airports? What would this country be like if we had chosen not to spend money on public high schools or research universities or community colleges? Millions of returning heroes, including my grandfather, had the opportunity to go to school because of the GI Bill. Where would we be if they hadn't had that chance?

How many jobs would it have cost us if past Congresses decided not to support the basic research that led to the Internet and the computer chip? What kind of country would this be if this Chamber had voted down Social Security or Medicare just because it violated some rigid idea about what government could or could not do? How many Americans would have suffered as a result?

No single individual built America on their own. We built it together. We have been and always will be one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all—a Nation with responsibilities to ourselves and with responsibilities to one another.

Members of Congress, it is time for us to meet our responsibilities.

Every proposal I've laid out tonight is the kind that has been supported by Democrats and Republicans in the past. Every proposal I've laid out tonight will be paid for, and every pro-

posal is designed to meet the urgent needs of our people and our communities.

Now, I know there has been a lot of skepticism about whether the politics of the moment will allow us to pass this jobs plan or any jobs plan. Already, we're seeing the same old press releases and tweets flying back and forth. Already, the media has proclaimed that it's impossible to bridge our differences, and maybe some of you have decided that those differences are so great that we can only resolve them at the ballot box.

But know this: the next election is 14 months away. And the people who sent us here—the people who hired us to work for them—they don't have the luxury of waiting 14 months. Some of them are living week to week, paycheck to paycheck, even day to day. They need help, and they need it now.

I don't pretend that this plan will solve all our problems. It should not be, nor will it be, the last plan of action we propose. What's guided us from the start of this crisis hasn't been the search for a silver bullet. It's been a commitment to stay at it, to be persistent, to keep trying every new idea that works and listen to every good proposal, no matter which party comes up with it.

Regardless of the arguments we've had in the past, regardless of the arguments we will have in the future, this plan is the right thing to do right now. You should pass it. And I intend to take that message to every corner of this country. And I ask every American who agrees to lift your voice. Tell the people who are gathered here tonight that you want action now. Tell Washington that doing nothing is not an option. Remind us that if we act as one Nation and one people, we have it within our power to meet this challenge.

President Kennedy once said, "Our problems are manmade. Therefore, they can be solved by man. And man can be as big as he wants."

These are difficult years for our country. But we are Americans. We are tougher than the times we live in, and we are bigger than our politics have been. So let's meet the moment. Let's get to work. And let's show the world once again why the United States of America remains the greatest Nation on Earth.

Thank you very much. God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 7 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m., the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet; the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint session of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 7 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m., the joint session of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered printed.

The motion was agreed to.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. MARINO (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of severe flooding in his district.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, September 9, 2011, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2976. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Requirements for Bicycles (RIN: 3041-AC95) received June 21, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2977. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Criteria for Use of Computers in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants [Regulatory Guide 1.152] received July 22, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2978. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-106, "Closing of a Portion of the Public Alley in Square 5148, S.O. 10-01784, Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2979. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-102, "Brewery Manufacture's Tasting Permit Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2980. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-107, "Arthur Capper/Carrollburg Public Improvements Revenue Bonds Temporary Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2981. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting

Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-108, "Heights on Georgia Avenue Development Extension Temporary Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2982. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-109, "KIPP DC — Shaw Campus Property Tax Exemptions Temporary Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2983. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-110, "Campaign Finance Reporting Temporary Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2984. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-111, "District Department of Transportation Capital Project Review and Reconciliation Temporary Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2985. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-119, "Heat Wave Safety Temporary Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2986. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-100, "Southeast Federal Center/Yards Non-Discriminatory Grocery Store Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2987. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-152, "Healthy Schools Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2988. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-99, "Athletic Concussion Protection Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2989. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-151, "Distributed Generation Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2990. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-101, "Closing of Streets and Alleys in and adjacent to Squares 4533, 4534, and 4535, S.O. 09-10850, Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2991. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-105, "Closing of a Portion of Bryant Street, N.E., and a Portion of 22nd Street, N.E., S.O. 06-1262, Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2992. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-103, "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 514, S.O. 09-9099, Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2993. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-104, "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 451, S.O. 11-03672, Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2994. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's "Major" final rule — Boards and Committees (RIN: 2700-AD50) received August 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

2995. A letter from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Regulations and Security Standards, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Air Cargo Screening [Docket No.: TSA-2009-0018; Amendment Nos. 1515-2, 1520-9, 1522-1, 1540-11, 1544-10, 1546-6, 1548-6, 1549-1] (RIN: 1652-AA64) received August 11, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2552. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to change the state of mind requirement for certain identity theft offenses, and for other purposes (Rept. 112-202). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. GRIMM (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. RANGEL):

H.R. 2865. A bill to establish the 9/11 Memorial Cross located at the National 9/11 Memorial Museum in New York as a national monument, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MANZULLO (for himself, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. CRITZ, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. ISRAELI):

H.R. 2866. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax incentive for the installation and maintenance of mechanical insulation property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WOLF (for himself, Ms. ROSELEHTINEN, and Mr. BERMAN):

H.R. 2867. A bill to reauthorize the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DOLD:

H.R. 2868. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide payroll tax relief to encourage the hiring of unemployed individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. FUDGE:

H.R. 2869. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to local educational agencies for the construction, renovation, or repair of athletics facilities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER (for himself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. LANCE, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, and Mr. POE of Texas):

H.R. 2870. A bill to reauthorize certain programs established by the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SPEIER:

H.R. 2871. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish integrity verification requirements for pipeline facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on